

From the Missouri Democrat.
JUDGE BRUCE IN SUPPORT
OF LINCOLN.

THE REPUBLICAN STANDARD-BEARER
WARMLY EULOGIZED.

St. Louis, June 11, 1860.

O. H. BRUCE, Esq., Quincy, Ill.

Dear Sir: When I received your letter

of May 29th, I had no thought that the

answer would be so long delayed; but

waiting all excuses, I proceed to answer it

Under the circumstances of the case, it

ought not to have been doubted that

Mr. Lincoln's nomination was a

cordial and hearty support. But in de-

scribing to do so, it is due to myself to

state some of the facts and reasons, which

have a controlling influence over my mind,

and which I think ought to be presented

to the public, and to the friends of

Mr. Lincoln, and to the friends of the

Republican party, and to the friends of

the Union, and to the friends of the

country, and to the friends of the

people, and to the friends of the

nation, and to the friends of the

world, and to the friends of the

human race, and to the friends of the

God, and to the friends of the

Heaven, and to the friends of the

Earth, and to the friends of the

Water, and to the friends of the

Fire, and to the friends of the

Air, and to the friends of the

Light, and to the friends of the

Darkness, and to the friends of the

Heat, and to the friends of the

Cold, and to the friends of the

Wet, and to the friends of the

Dry, and to the friends of the

Soft, and to the friends of the

Hard, and to the friends of the

Smooth, and to the friends of the

Rough, and to the friends of the

Shiny, and to the friends of the

Dull, and to the friends of the

Bright, and to the friends of the

Faint, and to the friends of the

Clear, and to the friends of the

Murky, and to the friends of the

Transparent, and to the friends of the

Opaque, and to the friends of the

Visible, and to the friends of the

Invisible, and to the friends of the

Known, and to the friends of the

Unknown, and to the friends of the

Discovered, and to the friends of the

Undiscovered, and to the friends of the

Proven, and to the friends of the

Unproven, and to the friends of the

Accepted, and to the friends of the

Rejected, and to the friends of the

Chosen, and to the friends of the

Unchosen, and to the friends of the

Preferred, and to the friends of the

Unpreferred, and to the friends of the

Approved, and to the friends of the

Disapproved, and to the friends of the

Commended, and to the friends of the

Condemned, and to the friends of the

Praised, and to the friends of the

Blamed, and to the friends of the

Honored, and to the friends of the

Shamed, and to the friends of the

Exalted, and to the friends of the

Abased, and to the friends of the

The third party, which, by its very

existence, has destroyed the organiza-

tions of the American and Whig parties,

has nominated two most excellent men.

I know them well as sound statesmen

and true patriots. More than thirty years

ago I served with both in congress, and

from that time to this I have always

held them in respect and honor. But what

the third party do towards the election

of such worthy men as these against the

two great parties which are now in actual

contest for the power to rule the nation?

It is made up entirely of portions of the

disintegrated elements of the late Whig

and American parties—good material, in

the main, I admit, but quite too weak to

elect any man or establish any principle.

The most it can do is, here and there in

particular localities, to make a diversion in

favor of the Democrats. In 1856, the Whig

and American parties, (not forming a new

party, but united as allies), with entire

unanimity and some real support, Mr.

Fillmore for the Presidency, and with what

result? We made a miserable failure, car-

rying no State but gained little Maryland.

And surely, United Whigs and Ameri-

cans of that day had a far greater show

of strength and far better prospects of suc-

cess than any party which belong to the

Constitutional Union party now. In fact,

I see no possibility of success for the

third party, except in one contingency,

the destruction of the Democratic party.

That is a contingency not likely to hap-

pen this year, for, badly as I think of many

of the acts and policies of that party, it

is not yet full-blown, and it has not yet

when it must dissolve in its own corrup-

tion. But the day is coming, and is not far

off. The party has made itself entirely sec-

ondary to the fact that between them and

us there was a coincidence of opinion on

certain important questions of govern-

ment. They and I agreed in believing that

the national government has sovereign

power over the Territories, and that it

would be impolitic and unwise to see that

power for the propagation of negro slavery

by planting it in free Territory. Some of

them believed also that my nomination,

while it would tend to soften the tone of

the Republican party, without any aban-

donment of its principles, might tend also

to generalize its character and attract the

friendship and support of many especially

in the border States, who, like me, had

never been members of their party, but

convinced with them in opinion about the

government of the Territories. These are

the grounds, and I think thereby ground-

ed upon which I was supported at Chicago.

As to the platform put forth by the Chi-

cago Convention, I have little to say, but

can say whether good or bad, that will not

constitute the ground of my support of Mr.

Lincoln. I have no great respect for party

platforms in general. They are commonly

made in times of high excitement, under

a pressure of circumstances, and with the

view to conciliate present support, rather

than to establish a permanent system of

principles and policy for the future

governments of the country. The con-

ventions which form them are transient in

their nature; their power and influence are

consumed in the using, leaving no contin-

uing obligation upon their respective par-

ties. And hence we need not wonder that

platforms so made, are hardly ever acted

on in practice. I shall not discuss their

relative merits, but content myself with

saying that this Republican platform, though

based on several particulars it does not

conform to my views, is still far better than

any published creed, past or present, of the

Democrats. And as to the new party, it

has not chosen to promulgate any platform

at all, except two or three broad generalities

which are common to the professions

of faith of all parties in the country. No

party, indeed, dare ask the confidence of

the nation, while openly denying the obli-

gation to support the Union and the Con-

stitution, and to enforce the laws. That is

a common duty, binding upon every citi-

zen, and the failure to perform it is a

crime.

To me it is plain that the approaching

contest must be between the Democratic

and Republican parties; and, between

them, I prefer the latter.

The Democratic party, by the long pos-

session and abuse of power, has grown

wanton and reckless; has corrupted itself

and perverted the principles of the govern-

ment; has set itself openly against the

great honest interests of the people, by

neglecting to protect their industry, and

by refusing to improve and keep in order

the highways and depots of commerce; and

even now is urging a measure in Congress

to abdicate the constitutional power and

duty to regulate commerce among the

States, and to grant to the States the dis-

cretionary power to levy tonnage duties

upon all our commerce, under the pretence

of improving harbors, rivers, and lakes; has

changed the status of the negro slave

by making him no longer mere property,

but a politician, an antagonist power in

the State, a power to which all other pow-

ers are required to yield, under penalty of

a dissolution of the Union; has directed its

energies to the gratification of its lusts of

foreign dominion, as manifested in its per-

sistent efforts to seize upon tropical

regions, not because those countries and

their incongruous people are necessary, or

even desirable, to be incorporated into our

union, but for the mere purpose of making

slave States, in order to advance the polit-

ical power of the party in the Senate and

to the choice of the President, so as effec-

tually to transfer the chief powers of the

government from the many to the few; has

in various instances endangered the equal-

ity of the co-ordinate branches of the gov-

ernment, by urgent efforts to enlarge the

powers of the Executive at the expense of

the legislative department; has attempted

to discredit and degrade the Judiciary, by

attempting to make it, at first, the arbiter

of party quarrels to become soon and inevi-

tably the passive register of party de-

basities. To most, if not all these particulars,

I understand the Republican party (judging

of its leading men), to be the ex-

act opposite of the Democratic party, and

that is the ground of my preference of

one party over the other. And that alone

would be a sufficient reason, if I had not

other good reasons, for supporting Mr.

Lincoln against any man who may be put

forward by the Democratic party as the

opponent of its principles and the agent to

work out, in practice, its dangerous poli-

tics.

These, I believe, are Mr. Lincoln's opini-

ons upon the matter of slavery in the

Territories, and I concur in them. They

are no new inventions, made to suit the

exigencies of the hour, but have come down

to us, as the Declaration of Independence

and the Constitution have, sanctioned by

the venerable authority of the wise and

good men who established our institutions.

They are conformable to law, principle

and policy, and their utility is proven

in practice by the as yet unbroken current

of our political history. They will pro-

duce, in the end, the best results.

Col. Forney before the Covode Com-

mittee.

We give below the material portions of

Col. Forney's recent disclosures before the

Covode Committee. They are rather rich,

and show to the people how their affairs

are managed at Washington, and how cor-

rupt is their President.

The Chairman. Just commence the

commencement, and go on and state the

history of the whole matter, as explaining

your relations with the President.

Answer. After the nomination of Mr.

Buchanan, (I was at Cincinnati helping,

with others, to secure that result,) I was

taken very ill, and residing at Lancaster

with my mother, my wife being with me

at the time. It was some time before I

recovered sufficiently to go to Philadelphia

and resume my connection with the cam-

paign. One afternoon I drove up to

Westland, and found Mr. Buchanan sit-

ting in front of his house all the forenoon

company with my wife, who had preceded

me; and he said to me in his usual kind

manner, (for we had formed very close and

intimate relations,) each other, "I am

very grateful to you for what you have

done at Cincinnati, and also during your

life for me. I shall be elected easily,"

when he believed that he would be elec-

ted easily, he was regarded as a conserva-

tive man, and he was confident himself of

an election. "And now," said he, "in or-

der that I may say upon the subject,

I want to tell you what my purposes

are in reference to myself. I design that

you should go to Washington and take

charge of the editorial part of the paper.

Should I be elected, and to take possession

of the public printing. This offer is vol-

untarily made, in the fullness of my heart,

and I believe that it would be gratefully

accepted, and I am sure that you will

be glad to accept it. I have no other

offer to make at this time, and I am

very glad that you are here, and I am

very glad that you are here, and I am

very glad that you are here, and I am

very